

BRUGES AND OSTEND STRIPPED BY ENEMY

Everything of Value Carried Off and Factories Are Left in Ruins.

EVEN THE WOMEN LOOTED Water Works and Electric Lighting Plant of Ostend Wrecked as Last Act.

By PERRY ROBINSON.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun From the London Times Service.

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With the British Army in France, Oct. 21.—The liberated people of France and Belgium continue their indescribable rejoicing. I reached Ostend yesterday and spent the night there and then returned to Bruges. What impressed me most after making a tour of that part of Belgium recently under German rule is the extraordinary skill with which the Germans got themselves hated everywhere.

A national hatred as enemies was to be expected, but the sentiment universally aroused was something more. The individual German is loathed by all classes of people. Brute, bully, thief, brigand, are terms one hears everywhere, and it is applied to officers more than to the men.

Sometimes the persecuted people threatened the Germans with such statements as "The English are coming" or "I will tell the English when they get here." The invaders made special efforts to treat the Flemings well and to play on the national prejudices of the different classes of people with whom they came in contact. But they played these cards so badly that instead of being driven apart they were welded more closely together. They knew but one enemy.

On the evening of October 19 a curious panic set in among the Germans, who heard the British were coming and that the ships were about to attack from the sea. Every German in Ostend fled when these reports gained currency.

Ostend Not Greatly Damaged.

Ostend is not seriously damaged. Around the station and the docks are the big guns were placed there is excellent evidence of the good marksmanship of our army and gunners. So true was their aim, indeed, that the greater part of the city is uninhabited. Along the water front there are many broken windows in houses and the buildings look as though they had been roughly handled. The damage is small, however, and Ostend will be as gay as ever after the war.

One of the last acts of the Germans before leaving was to wreck the lighting plants and water works. As a result the city was without light, except for candles, and without water, except for rain water.

On Friday night the civilians of Ostend were told to remain in doors until 3 o'clock Saturday. This order was implicitly obeyed, giving the Germans the time to strip the city of its valuables. In the morning the German soldiers would appear in doorways and when the householder responded to their knock he would be asked for shirts, soap, and other articles. The house owner that he had no shirts except the one he wore the Germans would then ask him what time it was. Then taking out his watch he would tell him the time, and also any other jewelry that remained in the house.

In shops I heard similar stories. German soldiers would appear in doorways and would then make demands on the shopkeepers for anything they wanted. All the houses in Ostend were stripped clean of everything of value. The Kaiser's burglars left nothing but the paper on the walls.

\$6,000,000 Plant Stripped.

In Bruges the invaders destroyed the great Compagnie Bruguioise plant, worth \$6,000,000. Before the war it was used for manufacturing vehicles, but was adapted by the Germans to make munitions. As the invaders left they placed mines under the factory buildings, wrecking the whole place.

In Ostend a fine private residence was occupied by the German Governor-General, von Schein, who, before he left, stripped the place of everything of value. In this he was assisted by many German women who had been acting in clerical positions. Both for their insolence and their capacity for theft these women are said by the Belgians to have been worse than the men.

It seems that German officers did a thriving business in Ostend in the produce and provisions line. They would go about the country buying butter and eggs and such things from the farmers, paying for them in requisition slips, and afterward selling them in the city for cash.

"They had to have money," said my informant, "to spend on their women." Bruges is unharmed except for the destruction of its bridges and some factories. The churches and public buildings are unharmed, but all were looted of everything portable.

From the people of Tournai and Roubaix I gather that the people there suffered the same hardships as those of Lille. There was the same thievery, the same greed and the same horrible depredations of women.

I personally saw one of the deportations. It stipulated that the people were to assemble in their houses and that an officer would call later to designate which ones should be taken away. It added that "any one who attempts to punish" the deportees will be appropriately punished. No more than a deeper stain on her name than those deeds to which this document testifies.

RUPPRECHT IN LINE TO GET KAISER'S JOB

Bavarian Prince Called Most Popular of Royalty.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

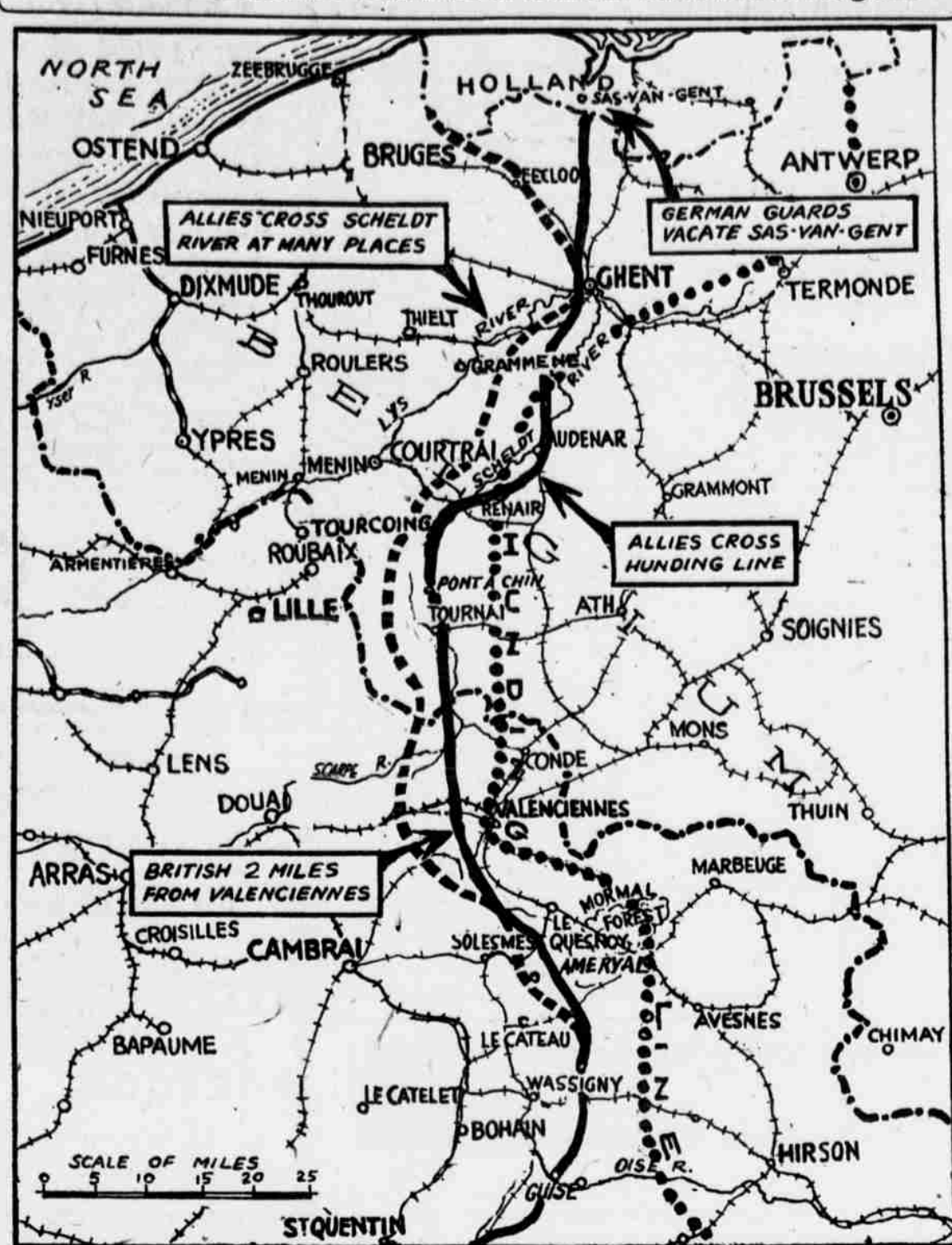
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PARIS, Oct. 21.—According to a correspondent at the French front Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria is considered in Germany as most likely to replace Kaiser Wilhelm on the imperial throne. Prince Rupprecht in addition to having an ambition to succeed the Kaiser has the good fortune of being the most popular of the ruling princes, says the correspondent, and inspires the most confidence of any man in the empire.

Prince Rupprecht is now regarded as a great general but as the future Emperor and from all sides in Bavaria he is looked upon to assume the direction of the empire's affairs.

The Hohenzollerns, it is said, will become the simple rulers of Prussia, the throne likely going to Prince Eitel, the son of the Crown Prince.

Where Allied Armies Continue to Gain in France and Belgium



The allied advance in France and Belgium continues, despite bad weather and a considerably stiffened opposition. That part of the so-called Hunding line which parallels the Scheldt River southwest of Ghent has been crossed in several places by the French and British, who continue to push eastward.

On the Holland frontier German guards have evacuated the village of Sas-van-Ghent, fifteen miles north of Ghent and seven miles east of the last town evacuated by the Germans on the border Sunday.

BRITISH GET ACROSS SECOND ENEMY LINE

Continued from First Page.

Holland front or along the line of the Meuse in Belgium. The Germans are supposed to have about thirty divisions in reserve. With the release of troops from the short-term line their reserves would be more than doubled, less the losses sustained in the fighting. Besides these reserves behind the front it is supposed that the 1920 contingent remains, while the number of wounded additional recuperable for immediate service on the new line is estimated at about 150,000.

The forces the enemy would be able to call upon for operations after the retreat would, on this basis, approach if not exceed a million men. This number is susceptible to important variations, depending upon the eventual success of the clearing of the enemy from the front now inactive, where the first line is held by only a thin covering of troops.

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE FIGHTING

British Gain on Both Sides of Valenciennes.

LONDON, Oct. 21.—Following are the official reports of operations in France and Belgium, as issued by the several war offices:

BRITISH (NIGHT).—During the night and early morning there was sharp fighting for possession of the village of Amerval, which we captured during our attack yesterday. Determined attacks to regain the village were repulsed.

Early this morning the enemy made an unsuccessful attempt to drive in our advanced troops in the neighborhood of the Cambrai-Bavay road. We took a few prisoners. East and north of Denain our progress has continued in the face of considerable opposition. We are less than two miles from Valenciennes and have reached the general line La Sentinelle-St. Amant-Rong-Taintiennes. We hold the west bank of the Scheldt at and several miles north of Pont-a-Chin, northwest of Tournai.

BRITISH (DAY).—The number of prisoners captured by us in the operation yesterday north of Le Cateau now exceeds 3,000. The enemy position along the River Selle were of great natural strength and were held with resolution.

The attack and Welsh divisions at 2 o'clock in the morning under most unfavorable weather conditions, a continuous rain rendering the advance extremely difficult. The fighting was heavy throughout the day, the enemy offering strong resistance in the villages and along the line of the railway. In overcoming this resistance great assistance was rendered at certain points by tanks, which, despite the flooded state of the river, succeeded in passing to the east bank at an early hour.

As soon as the line of the river was secured a number of bridges were rapidly constructed under a heavy counter attack from the region of Roubaix and the hostile artillery and machine guns, enabling our guns to push forward close behind the advancing infantry and to afford them effective support at short range. During the evening certain points at which parties of the enemy were still resisting were cleared up by local operations, and a counter attack from the region of Roubaix was beaten off with heavy loss.

North of Denain our advance troops continued to push forward in contact with the enemy and are approaching the village of St. Amant and the line of the Scheldt north of Tournai.

FRENCH (NIGHT).—The situation in without change on the Oise front. Between the Oise and the Serre our troops resumed their progress this morning. On the right we occupied Meusecourt-Richecourt, taking about fifty prisoners. On the left, between Lucy and Villers-le-Sec, we gained ground despite the enemy's spirited resistance. The battle was stubborn.

On the plateau east of Vouziers the Germans counter attacked several times with large effect. Our troops resisted all the assaults and maintained their positions.

FRENCH (DAY).—The night was marked by rather heavy activity between the Serre and the Aisne. In Lorraine and Alsace incursions into the German lines enabled the French to take prisoners.

GERMAN (NIGHT).—Our counter attack against the heights on the Aisne, on both sides of Vouziers, which have been occupied by the enemy, progressed favorably.

GERMAN (DAY).—In Flanders there has been violent fighting before and on the Oise sector between Ussel and Courtrai. We threw back the enemy, who had temporarily penetrated into Sommeville, by a counter attack. On both sides of the Oise the enemy has obtained a few prisoners. The bank of the Lys. Detachments which had advanced across the river to the south of the town were for the most part taken prisoners. A number of French soldiers remained on the east bank.

U.S. TROOPS WIN TWO WOOD STRONGHOLDS

Sharp Attacks Gain Possession of Rappe and Bantheville Forests Near Grand Pre.

HILL FLANKED AND TAKEN

Bombing Expedition Downs 18 Enemy Airplanes Without Any American Loss.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 21.—The American attack, though on a comparatively small scale today, was entirely successful. The Bois de Rappe and a formidable hill, No. 299, both points of strategic importance, were rushed and cleared of the enemy within three hours despite unusual machine gun opposition.

The artillery on both sides was fairly active throughout the day, but the attacks were up from early until late, but the infantry action was confined to two local operations.

The advance on the Bois de Rappe, which was the first of the day, was not entirely eliminated by the brief preparatory shelling. Despite every effort of the Germans, however, the Americans steadily forced their way about, driving the enemy before them, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon were in complete possession of the wood.

About 150 Germans captured. Hill 299 fell almost simultaneously with the Bois de Rappe, which outflanked it. The Germans consequently retired hastily from the height when it appeared that the Americans had been successful in forcing their passage through the wood. Only 150 Germans were taken prisoner.

Another minor success for the Americans was the expulsion of the enemy from his last positions in Bantheville Wood. He had hung on to the northern edge of this machine gun stronghold, from which it was possible to direct a harassing enfilading fire.

It is the purpose of the German command to disrupt the foot of the American advance on the line west of the Meuse and to inflict the heaviest possible losses, according to German prisoners captured today. They added that the Americans in taking over this sector would find more formidable opposition than any place else on the front and would suffer serious casualties.

PERISHING REPORTS HIS GAIN. Also Tells of Progress Northeast of St. Juvin.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Gen. Pershing's report of the storming of the Bois de Rappe and Hill 299 to-day follows:

In the course of stubborn fighting north of Verdun we have advanced our line at several points. This morning our troops took Hill No. 299 and drove the enemy from the Bois de Rappe, capturing in this operation six officers, 250 men and a number of machine guns. Further west we have extended their position in the northern edge of the Bois de Batheville and have made progress northeast of St. Juvin. East of the Meuse he enemy defenses were repulsed. On both sides of the Meuse our general advance and fluctuating fighting. Here the Forty-fourth Brandenburg Reserve Division, especially distinguished itself. Owing to the stubbornness of our infantry, effectively supported by the artillery, the enemy attack, which was delivered with large effectiveness in men and material, thus failed on the whole of the front of twenty kilometers (twelve and a half miles), with the exception of limited local gains of ground.

North of the Serre fresh enemy attacks were repulsed. On both sides of the Laon-Marle road we made a counter attack and cleared such parts of our lines as were still in the hands of the enemy and also repulsed strong counter attacks.

To the west of the Aisne East Prussian battalions and the 231st Reserve Infantry Regiment also recaptured their positions by a counter attack and repulsed enemy attacks.

To the east of Vouziers the enemy attempted by means of a continuation of his attacks to extend the local successes which he obtained on October 19. His attacks failed, owing chiefly to a counter attack by the 41st Infantry Regiment and the stubborn defense of the Seventh Company of the Twenty-fourth Bavarian Infantry Regiment.

Independence for Hungary. AMSTERDAM, Oct. 21.—Emperor Charles shortly will issue a manifesto to the Hungarian people announcing the independence of Hungary, according to the Budapest correspondent of the *Kathisch Westphalian Gazette*.

Hungary, the manifesto will say, is to have economic independence and will maintain her own army and her own diplomatic corps.

Higher and Higher go prices—Ours the same the past 9 years.

PERE MACDONALD Photographer of Men.

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PERFECT UNITY, FOCH TELLS LLOYD GEORGE

Answers Premier's Birthday Congratulations.

The British Bureau of Information here yesterday made public telegrams exchanged between Premier Lloyd George and Marshal Foch, commander in chief of the allied armies, on the latter's sixty-seventh birthday.

"Please accept my sincere congratulations on your birthday," Lloyd George wired. "I feel a particular pleasure in addressing you at the moment when the allied armies under your direction are making formidable change in the military situation. I do not know whether I should the more admire your marvellous skill as a commander or your indomitable courage and the unquestionable faith in victory which you have shown in the course of this war."

Marshal Foch answered: "I am greatly touched by your congratulations and thank you sincerely. I do not forget that it is to your instance that I owe the position which I occupy to-day. The sure sign of the glorious days awaiting our armies is to be found in the perfect unity which exists now between all the allied forces."

2 NEW LIEUTENANT-GENERALS. President Wilson Promotes Bullard and Liggett.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Major-Generals Hunter Liggett and Robert L. Bullard were nominated by President Wilson to-day to be Lieutenant-Generals.

Gen. Liggett commands the First American Field Army in France and Gen. Bullard commands the Second. They become the only Lieutenant-Generals on the active list, their new rank being the war rank, like that of Gen. Pershing. Gen. Liggett is a Major-General in the regular establishment and Gen. Bullard is a Brigadier-General.

When Liggett arrived in France Gen. Pershing was at work on the formation of the First Army Corps and this task promptly was assigned to Liggett. The American commander in chief was so well satisfied with the result that Liggett was given direct command of the First Field Army when it was organized and directed it when in the first major offensive the St. Mihiel salient was wiped out in a day.

U. S. FLIERS HARRIED SUBMARINE BASES

Dropped Bombs Daily on Ostend and Zeebrugge.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—American naval aviators had much to do with making the harbors of Ostend and Zeebrugge untenable for the Germans, according to Franklin D. Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

In talking of his trip abroad to-day for the first time, Mr. Roosevelt disclosed the fact that not only had our naval aviators participated with the British air forces daily in dropping bombs on these bases, but that the American airplane stations maintained along the French coast German submarines had been driven at least fifty miles from the coast and sinkings correspondingly reduced.

The navy, Mr. Roosevelt said, was maintaining a large unit at Gibraltar, and from there bombers were sent out into the Atlantic and eastward into the Mediterranean.

Mr. Roosevelt said the American Navy had taken an important part in maintaining the northern mine barrage, by which operations of German submarines had been greatly curtailed. The plans were started in May of last year, and carried out by means of stupendous efforts.

Referring to American battleships operating with the Grand Fleet, Mr. Roosevelt said they were part of the British force and Admiral Beatty regarded them as efficient fighting machines.

INTERNED; TRIES TO ESCAPE.

American Aviator Hurt and Is Recaptured.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

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LONDON, Oct. 21.—The Geneva correspondent of the *Daily Express* telegraphs that Lieut. Duncan, the American aviator who lost his way after bombing one of the Rhine towns and was forced to descend in the Jura Alps, made a bold but unsuccessful attempt to escape from the internment camp at Annematt.

Lieut. Duncan, who is under parole to the Swiss authorities, made a rope out of bed clothes and was trying to let himself out of a window when the rope broke. In the fall he was severely injured, but despite this he walked along the railroad track until he reached Goeschelchen, from which place he intended to make his way to Italy.

He walked into the St. Gothard tunnel and when he emerged at the other end an armed guard awaited him, news of his escape having been telegraphed. He was arrested and sent back to the camp.

FOCH ASKS PRAYERS OF CHILDREN IN U. S.

Message Delivered at Cardinal Gibbons's Celebration.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 21.—Speaking at the celebration to-day in honor of Cardinal Gibbons's fifty-fifth anniversary as a bishop, Mr. William Barnes, Catholic chaplain of Oxford University, England, asked the Cardinal to appeal to the Catholic children of America to receive communion for the intention of Marshal Foch, and told how that had been done by the English children when things looked darkest for the allied cause.

He said that Marshal Foch had written him as follows:

"The act of faith which the children of Great Britain have made for my intention, has profoundly touched me. Please express my gratitude to them, and beg them to continue their prayers for the victory of our just cause."

Since that, said Mr. Barnes, Marshal Foch had sent the following:

"I am still depending on the prayers of the children. Ask them to go to communion for me again and again."

A Standard

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HOLLAND IS FREED FROM TEUTON GRIP

Direct Rail Communication With France Established and Shipping Liberated.

ALLIED AID NOW ASSURED

Forced Sale of Food to Germany Expected to End as Result of Retreat.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Oct. 21.—The allied victories which resulted in freeing the Belgian coast, making possible direct rail communication between France and Holland, are highly pleasing to the Dutch people. French correspondents in that country telegraph that the feeling is one of great relief, as it is recognized that the Dutch Government is no longer under Germany's heel. Immediate suspension of food shipments into Germany is anticipated.

Particular satisfaction is expressed at The Hague over the turn of events, which have removed definitely the German menace. Marin says that in case Germany, in her last convulsions, attempts to make war on Holland the allied armies will be in a good position to block the blow.

Special Despatch to The Sun. WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Release of about 400,000 or 500,000 tons of shipping in the ports of Holland is looked for among officials in charge of shipping matters here as a result of the evacuation of the Belgian coast by the Germans. Many of these vessels have been tied up since the declaration of unlimited submarine warfare early in 1917.

Virtually all the Dutch merchant ships have remained either in Holland or in neutral ports because of a German submarine base on both the north and south sides of Holland. The allied navies again in complete control of the English Channel the Dutch ships are able to traverse the lanes to the south without confining in any way contact with German submarine bases.

The withdrawal of the Germans opens a land route for trade between Holland and France, and for the first time since the outbreak of war in 1914 the resumption of commercial relations between those countries is looked for.

The Dutch merchants have been informed by the Allies already that the sale of clothing and food supplies to the civil populations in the occupied area will be welcome. Ways and means of restoring the railroads and canals in western Belgium are under discussion.

FRENCH ADVANCE TO DANUBE AT VIDIN

Serbian Forces Now in Contact With Germans.

PARIS, Oct. 21.—French troops have reached the Danube River in the region of Vidin, the War Office announces tonight as follows:

On October 20, thirty-four days after launching their offensive, the French troops reached the Danube in the region of Vidin, where they measured to stop all traffic on the river. An enemy monitor was forced ashore on the north bank under our artillery fire.

On the same day allied forces occupied Zaleztar. Their advanced elements are within ten kilometers of Latchin, on the Danube. Serbian troops are in contact north of Aleksinatz and Krushatz with German forces strongly entrenched.

German Steamship Sunk by Mine. STOCKHOLM, Oct. 21.—The Hamburg-American Line steamship *Habsburg* struck a mine last Wednesday while on a voyage from Riga to Danzig, according to advices from Helmsingborg. The ship was carrying more than four hundred German soldiers and four officers were drowned, owing to panic-stricken passengers rushing for the lifeboats, which were capsized.

Irish Steamship Torpedoed. BELFAST, Oct. 21.—The Irish steamship *Dundalk* was torpedoed in the Irish Sea last week. Of the crew of more than thirty men, only three were rescued. The *Dundalk* was owned by the Dundalk and Newry Steam Packet Company and measured 562 tons.

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THE STORY OF REVILLON FURS

Trading a Fox Skin

THIS lucky Indian has a fine silver fox for which he is trying to get the best price the trader will pay. He will probably spend the money for a phonograph, or a fine new gun, adding a pair of checked trousers and a plaid shawl for his squaw.

The post trader is as much pleased as the Indian. The fur trader likes to have a fine collection of skins to turn in, as this indicates the prosperity of his post and adds to his own profits. The next sale of this silver fox will probably be at the New York store, where again its unusual beauty will command the admiration of both the seller and the purchaser.

Revillon Freres

Fifth Avenue at 53rd Street

1874-1918

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